



International Civil Aviation Organization

North American, Central American and Caribbean Office

Sixth Meeting of Directors of Civil Aviation of the Central Caribbean (C/CAR DCA/6)

Nassau, Bahamas, 02-04 July 2003

C/CAR DCA/6 - IP/05

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Agenda Item 4: Safety Oversight matters

**FAA SUPPORT FOR EXPANSION OF ICAO USOAP PROGRAM TO ANNEX 14
AIRPORT CERTIFICATION TRAINING ACTIVITIES**

(Presented by United States)

SUMMARY

This information paper provides an update on the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) activities to support the Central America and the Caribbean (CAR) and the South American (SAM) regions with the expansion of the ICAO USOAP program to Annex 14 *Aerodromes*. It describes some of the specific activities the FAA is taking as part of its overall strategy to help the region with airport certification requirements, including seminars, airport certification inspector training courses and planned FAA/ICAO workshops.

1. Introduction

1.1 As a precursor to the expansion of the ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP) to include airports (aerodromes), Amendment 4 to ICAO Annex 14, Volume 1 became applicable to all signatory States to the Chicago Convention in November 2001. This amendment introduces requirements on the certification of airports. It recommends that all airports open to public use be certified by the State from the date of applicability of the amendment, and that all airports used for international operations be certified starting in November 2003.

1.2 The FAA has had an airport certification programme in place since 1970 for all U.S. airports that receive planes with more than thirty (30) seats. The intent of the FAA's programme is to ensure the safety of the flying public by requiring airports to comply with FAA safety regulations. The FAA works with U.S. airports to help them meet these standards and periodically conducts inspections of certificated airports.

1.3 In preparation for the November 2003 deadline for implementation of the certification of airports with international operations and the ICAO audits to follow in February 2004, several States' civil aviation authorities have asked the FAA for support in establishing airport certification programs and in training airport certification inspectors.

2. Discussion

International Conference on Modern Airport Management

2.1 The FAA's Office of International Aviation organized an international conference on modern airport management for the CAR and SAM regions in cooperation with the American Association of Airport Executives and the Center of Latin American Issues (CLAI) of the George Washington University. The conference was held in Washington, D.C. on March 26, 2003. Approximately sixty (60) participants from Latin America and the Caribbean attended.

2.2 The Director of the ICAO Regional Office for North America, Central America and the Caribbean (NACC) and the Chief of the Aerodromes, Air Routes and Ground Aids section of the Air Navigation Bureau of ICAO were key speakers on the subject of the ICAO Aerodrome Certification and Audit Programme.

2.3 FAA Associate Administrator for Airports, Dr. Woodie Woodward, highlighted the FAA's and the International Civil Aviation Organization's (ICAO) collaboration to provide the region with airport certification training through courses and seminars. FAA experts in airport safety, certification and planning, aircraft rescue and firefighting (ARFF), wildlife hazards, and runway safety participated in panels.

2.4 A synopsis of the conference and many of the presentations can be found on the George Washington University CLAI web-site: www.gwu.edu/~clai

FAA Airport Certification Inspection Training for International Participants

2.5 In response to multiple requests for training in airport certification inspection, the FAA Office of International Aviation has coordinated with the FAA Offices of Airport Safety and Standards, Airport Safety and Operations, and the FAA Academy the development of a course for civil aviation authorities worldwide.

2.6 The FAA has customized its standard airport certification inspection course to meet the needs of international airport certification inspectors. The curriculum has been modified to include the requirements of ICAO Annex 14 and ICAO Doc. 9774, along with those of FAA Part 139.

2.7 The first Airport Certification Inspections Course for International Participants (Course 06047) was conducted at the FAA Academy in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, from April 28 through May 9, 2003. Seventeen students from around the world participated.

2.8 At the request of the Director of the Central American Institute for Aeronautical Training (ICCAE) and the Regional Aviation Safety Oversight System (RASOS) of the Association of Civil Aviation Authorities of the Caribbean (ACAAC), the FAA Office of International Aviation asked the Office of Airport Safety and Operations and the FAA Academy to teach Course 06047 in the Caribbean and in Central America.

2.9 The FAA taught the airport inspection certification course to RASOS participants in Trinidad from June 16-25, 2003. The course will be taught in Spanish at ICCAE in El Salvador from July 28 through August 6, 2003. The FAA will determine whether it will hold future courses in the CAR and SAM regions once these sessions have been concluded.

2.10 Two (2) FAA Airport Certification Safety Inspectors teach the course. They review ICAO Annex 14, Doc 9774, and FAA Part 139 requirements, along with the issuance of airport certificates, the review of airport certification manuals and related plans, airport inspection procedures to assure compliance with ICAO Annex 14 and FAA Part 139, the identification of violations of Annex 14 and Part 139 regulations, and the preparation of administrative enforcement actions.

2.11 As part of the training, the FAA instructors and class participants conduct an airport certification inspection at an international airport.

2.12 At the end of the course, participants are able to perform an airport certification inspection in accordance with Annex 14 or FAA Part 139 standards.

FAA/ICAO Airport Certification Inspection Workshops

2.13 The FAA Offices of International Aviation and Airport Safety and Standards and the FAA International Area Office for Latin America and the Caribbean are collaborating with the ICAO Regional Offices for North America, Central America, and the Caribbean (NACC) and South America (SAM) on the development of two airport certification inspection workshops for the CAR and SAM regions.

2.14 Each one-week workshop (one in English, one in Spanish) will focus on the airport certification inspection. Participants should be State civil aviation authorities with a sound knowledge of Annex 14 and Doc. 9774. Their States should have the airport certification framework in an advanced stage of development prior to attending the workshop.

2.15 The workshop will include practical training on an airport.

2.16 The joint FAA/ICAO workshops will be held in Miami, Florida. The first one will be in English, from September 15 – 20, 2003. The Spanish-language workshop will take place from October 6 – 10, 2003.

Funding for Airport Certification Technical Assistance

2.17 The FAA Office of International Aviation is working with the Inter-American Development Bank, the Multilateral Investment Fund, and the U.S. Trade and Development Agency on funding possibilities for follow up activities to continue to assist the CAR and SAM regions. The FAA continues to be interested in partnering with regional organizations and ICAO on future projects.

3. Conclusion

3.1 The FAA and ICAO are committed to work together with the CAR and SAM States to ensure that the region will be prepared for the coming ICAO airport certification requirements and the aerodrome audits.

3.2 The airport certification inspection courses and workshops will provide airport certification inspectors with an in-depth understanding of the process required to certify an airport according to ICAO standards.

3.3 The Meeting is requested to note the information presented in this paper, and to encourage participation by all airport certification inspectors and civil aviation authority personnel responsible for implementing and overseeing the airport certification process.

3.4 States are invited to contact Ms. Krista Berquist, of the FAA's Office of International Aviation for additional information about the FAA airport certification inspection courses and the FAA follow-up programmes to assist the region in preparation for the Annex 14 USOAP audits:

Ms. Krista Berquist
International Aviation Operations Specialist
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue, SW, Suite 1026
Washington, D.C., 20591

Phone: 202-267-3853
Fax: 202-267-5032
E-Mail: krista.berquist@faa.gov

3.5 For additional information on the FAA/ICAO Airport Certification Inspection Workshops, please contact Ms. Berquist or FAA Senior Representative Mr. Mark Rios, at phone number (305) 716-3300, extension 15, or by e-mail at: mark.rios@faa.gov.

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